

What is claimed is:

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1. A communication promotion method used in a chat system having a plurality of chat devices which share any of virtual chat spaces being configured on a network and which can send and receive messages among themselves, comprising:
- 5 linking or installing in the chat device a character that can be operated according to a predetermined operation instruction received by the chat device,
- detecting a predetermined event occurring within the chat space,
- 10 determining one or a plurality of operation instructions for operating the character, based on the detected event,
- determining one or a plurality of chat devices to be sent an operation instruction from among the chat devices sharing the chat space, and
- 15 sending an operation instruction via the chat system to the chat device that is the operation instruction destination and operating the character.
- 20 2. The communication promotion method set forth in claim 1, wherein an operation instruction's originating address, an operation instruction's destination address, and an event detection time are sent to the destination together with the operation instruction.

3. A communication promotion system used in a chat system having a plurality of chat devices which share any of virtual chat spaces being configured on a network and which can send and receive messages among themselves, comprising:

5 a character that is linked to or installed in the chat device and can be operated according to a predetermined operation instruction received by the chat device,

an association table that relationally stores a predetermined event occurring in the chat space, an
10 operation instruction that operates a character, and an operation instruction destination,

detection means for detecting a predetermined event, based on the association table,

first determination means for determining one or a
15 plurality of operation instructions in accordance with the detected event, based on the association table,

second determination means for determining one or a plurality of chat devices to be sent the determined operation instruction from among the chat devices sharing
20 the chat space, based on the association table, and

communication means for sending the operation instruction via the chat system to the chat device that is the operation instruction destination in order to operate the character.

4. The communication system set forth in claim 3,
wherein said communication means sends an originating
address of operation instruction, a destination address of
operation instruction, and an event detection time to the
5 destination together with the operation instruction.

5. An administration device used in a chat system
having a plurality of chat devices which share any of
virtual chat spaces being configured on a network and which
can send and receive messages among themselves, comprising:

10 an association table that relationally stores a
predetermined event occurring in the chat space, a
predetermined operation instruction that operates a
character linked to or installed in the chat device, and the
operation instruction destination,

15 detection means for detecting a predetermined event,
based on the association table,

first determination means for determining one or a
plurality of operation instructions in accordance with the
detected event, based on the association table,

20 second determination means for determining one or a
plurality of chat devices to be sent the determined
operation instruction from among the chat devices sharing
the chat space, based on the association table, and

communication means for sending an operation
25 instruction via the chat system to the chat device that is

the operation instruction destination in order to operate the character.

6. The administration device set forth in claim 5, wherein said communication means sends an originating address of operation instruction, a destination address of operation instruction, and an event detection time to the destination together with the operation instruction.

7. The administration device set forth in claim 5, additionally comprising a control means that selects one or a plurality of operation instructions based on predetermined conditions when a plurality of operation instructions occurs with the same chat device as the destination, and sends the operation instruction(s) to the chat device.

8. The administration device set forth in claim 5, wherein when a plurality of characters is linked to or installed in a chat device, said second determination means can determine one or a plurality of characters to operate from among the chat device's characters, based on an event, and

said communication means sends an operation instruction that includes a character specification to the chat device associated with the character in order to operate the character.

9. A character linked to or installed in a chat device which is connected to a network and which shares any

of virtual chat spaces being configured on said network and which can send and receive messages, comprising:

communication means for sending and receiving operation instructions for operating the character between the chat
5 device and the character, and

operation means for operating the character based on said received operation instruction.

10. An administration device used in a chat system having a plurality of chat devices which share any of
10 virtual chat spaces being configured on a network and which can send and receive messages among themselves, comprising: an association table that relationally stores a predetermined event occurring in the chat space, an operation instruction that operates a character linked to or
15 installed in the chat device, and an operation instruction destination,

detection means for detecting a predetermined event, based on the association table,

determination means for determining an operation
20 instruction in accordance with the detected event, based on the association table, and

communication means for sending the determined operation instruction to the chat device's character in order to operate the character.

11. A computer-readable recording medium recording an administration program used in any chat device in a chat system in which a plurality of chat devices which share any of virtual chat spaces operating on a network can send and receive messages among themselves; the administration program executing the steps of:

A. Preparing an association table that relationally stores a predetermined event occurring in the chat space, a predetermined operation instruction that operates a character linked to or installed in said chat device, and an operation instruction destination,

B. Detecting predetermined event, based on the association table,

C. Determining one or a plurality of operation instructions in accordance with the detected event, based on the association table,

D. Determining one or a plurality of chat devices to be sent the determined operation instruction from among the chat devices sharing said chat space, based on the association table, and

E. Sending an operation instruction via the chat system to the chat device that is the operation instruction destination in order to operate the character.

12. A computer-readable recording medium recording an administration program used in chat devices which share any

of virtual chat spaces being configured on a network and can send and receive messages among themselves; the administration program executing the stages of:

- 5 A. Preparing an association table that relationally stores a predetermined event occurring in the chat space, a predetermined operation instruction that operates a character linked to or installed in the chat device, and an operation instruction destination,
- 10 B. Detecting a predetermined event, based on the association table,
- C. Determining an operation instruction in accordance with the detected event, based on the association table, and
- D. Sending the determined operation instruction to the chat device's character in order to operate the
- 15 character.